

March 12, 2004

All non-art matters have been reviewed and Applicant has found no rejection or objection based upon a non-art matter. Therefore, Applicant has made no changes to the specification except the claims as set forth above.

The Examiner stated that Claims 2-4, 6-7, and 9-10 would be allowable if rewritten to depend on an allowable base claim. Claim 2 is now that allowable base claim and incorporates all of the necessary limitations of the former base claim, Claim 1 and the limitations of Claim 2. The remaining claims 3-10 are either directly or indirectly dependent upon this allowable base claim and therefore these claims are clearly allowable.

Claim 1 has been withdrawn and it is expected that a continuation application will be file on this and the other withdrawn claims in this case.

The necessary limitations of Claims 11 and 12 have been added to the limitation of Claim 13 to similar form an independent allowable base claim. Claim 14 is therefore allowable as well since it depends upon an allowable base claim.

Claims 15 – 22 have been withdrawn and it is expected that a continuation application will be filed on these claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and arguments herein set forth, Applicant respectfully submits that the remaining claims are clearly in a condition for allowance and that by the Examiner's own words these claims are allowable. The Applicants, having answered each and every ground of rejection set forth by the Examiner, now



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submits that the case is in proper condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

If any questions should arise with respect to the above remarks, or if it would in any way expedite the prosecution of this case, Applicant's attorney would appreciate a telephone call at (408) 965-4001.

Respectfully submitted,

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